

PROGRAMS COMING UP...	
ONE-DAY PROGRAMS	
SEPTEMBER	ISLAM: PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE
	AN ART TOUR OF BRISBANE
	THE CELTS IN THE ANCIENT WORLD
	A PERSONALISED VISIT TO THE BRISBANE WRITERS FESTIVAL
OCT	BRISBANE'S MILITARY AND NAVAL HISTORY
	A DAY AT THE GOLD COAST ARTS CENTRE
NOV	INDIGENOUS CULTURE
DEC	RELIGION AND SOCIETY IN INDIA
LONGER PROGRAMS	
OCT	ART IN BARGARA
	IPSWICH: PEOPLE, PLACE AND MEDIA
NOVEMBER	STRADBROKE ISLAND: THE LAND AND MARINE ENVIRONMENT
	KEEPING TABS ON THE NEIGHBOURS: WHAT'S GOING ON IN AUSTRALIA'S REGION?
MORE DETAILS INSIDE....	

The Concept of MindVentures

Our mailing list consists mainly of people who have expressed interest in the concept of MindVentures – together with the growing number of people who have taken part in MindVentures programs and courses.

From now on we're going to refer to you as 'members'.

We should hasten to point out that membership is free and does not involve any obligation or commitment on your part.

And *anyone* can still take part in a particular program.

But we hope that by being a member you will take a continuing interest in MindVentures activities, and be encouraged to let us know how we can better meet the needs and interests of mature people who would like to pursue and extend intellectual interests in a relaxed environment.

In practical terms it simply means that we'll continue to send you information about forthcoming MindVentures programs.*

For the benefit of new 'members', we reiterate our aim: to help people in their third age add to their enjoyment of life by providing experiences which combine learning with leisure.

These 'experiences' take varying forms... MindVentures programs differ in terms of the subject, location, duration and format of programs, the type of activity they encompass and the venue they are based at.

But there are some things that all programs have in common:

- stimulating lectures, discussions and activities with expert and entertaining presenters;
- a relaxed environment where you can stay in your physical comfort zone while stretching the mind as much as you want;
- a small group of interesting people and a MindVentures representative present throughout to ensure that your experience is enjoyable and comfortable as well as stimulating.

Read on to find out about what's coming up later in the year.

With best wishes.

Bill Richmond

* Of course if you wish to discontinue your membership and not receive information about MindVentures programs in the future please let us know and we'll take you off the mailing list.

Mind Ventures

director Dr Bill Richmond

telephone 07 3878 4077

e-mail mindventures@uq.net.au

website www.mindventures.com.au

postal PO Box 1491, Toowong Qld 4066

Want To Know More?

We can only give a brief outline of programs in newsletters of course.

If one or more of them interest you, and you would like to know more about either the detailed program or what is included in the cost, here's what you can do:

- visit the website (www.mindventures.com.au) where you can access Information Sheets on each program (and where you can also view the detailed programs for some previous MindVentures); or
- ask us for more information and updates on details of the program as they are finalised.

To register your interest and ask for further information all you need to do is to return the enclosed form (we've made it easy... just fill it in, fold and tape, and put it in the mail – no postage stamp required!).

Or you can use the form to enrol straight away.

Whatever action you would like to take, do it now!

If you would like to talk to us at any time about any aspect of a program or programs feel free to give us a call on 07 3878 4077.

The Survey

Our thanks to all who responded to the survey that MindVentures conducted earlier in the year. We received a large number of responses which were very useful in informing us about your preferences.

The interest in one-day programs expressed by a number of respondents has been noted. This is reflected in the current schedule.

We recognise that these programs are only easily accessible to those of you who live reasonably close to where they're held – though with your support we're aiming to extend the range of locations and venues.

So we continue to offer a range of programs in the two or three-night format. Not only do these cater for people over a wider geographic area but we find they also provide a more relaxed experience that's possible when a group can spend a few days and nights together.

We have also noted the subject areas of most interest: history; countries/travel; social issues; literature and the arts generally. We'll focus more on these while still catering for the less popular subject areas.

The winners of a free MindVentures program in the initial draw at the end of February are Graham and Vivienne of Brighton (privacy laws mean first names only) and, in a second draw for those who were sent the survey in subsequent months, Ailsa of Woombye.

PROGRAMS COMING UP...

ONE-DAY PROGRAMS

ISLAM: PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE

2 September, Brisbane (Women's College, University of Queensland), \$89 (includes lunch/refreshments)

A one-day program of presentations by a number of academics and practitioners on both the principles and practices of Islam. Topics covered will include: the Prophet Muhammad and the role and teachings of the Qur'an; the Pillars of Islam, belief in the deity; contemporary beliefs and practices; and the place of women. Presentations will be supplemented by a visit to a mosque where we will be welcomed by, and engage in discussions with, the Imam. There will be scope throughout the day for participants to ask questions and pursue subjects and issues of interest to them. Presenters will include Dr Roxanne Marcotte from the Department of Studies in Religion at the University of Queensland. A detailed program for the day will be available upon request.

AN ART TOUR OF BRISBANE

16 September; pick-up point central Brisbane; \$99 (includes lunch/refreshments)

A tour of approximately seven private art galleries in the Brisbane area where you can view a mixture of traditional, contemporary and indigenous art. The visits will allow participants to get a 'behind the scenes' appreciation of what is involved in running an art gallery and exhibiting art. You will meet, hear presentations by, and be able to talk to the owners and curators of galleries and exhibitions and, where possible, the artists themselves. Lunch at the Bulimba Yacht Club.

THE CELTS IN THE CLASSICAL WORLD

23 September; Brisbane (Women's College, University of Queensland); \$89 (includes lunch/refreshments)

The Celts played a significant and often violent part in the classical world of Greece and Rome. Using the evidence of the Classical writers, archaeology and art, the presenters will examine some of the more important aspects of the civilisation of this fascinating people, with special reference to their interaction with the Greeks and Romans. Presentations will cover Greek and Roman views of the Celts and analyse in detail Celtic warfare, social life and art. The geography

of the Celtic settlements in Europe and Asia Minor will also be explained. Presenters are Professor Bob Milns and Associate Professor Dorothy Watts from the University of Queensland Department of Classics and Ancient History. The program will include a visit to the University's Antiquities Museum.

A PERSONALISED VISIT TO THE BRISBANE WRITERS FESTIVAL

30 September; Brisbane Writers Festival site, Southbank; \$69 (see below for inclusions)

An opportunity to meet and hear from a host of well-known and highly regarded writers, editors, publishers, booksellers and members of the literary community on the opening day of the 2004 Brisbane Writers Festival. Use the 'MindVentures lounge' at the Festival site to select from the wide variety of presentations, discussions and forums on the program. By enrolling you get: detailed information about, and access to, all the scheduled events on the program; a comfortable 'base' with all facilities and easy access to the Festival site; specially catered lunch and refreshments throughout the day; and additional meetings, discussions and happenings just for MindVentures participants (including a meeting with Rosemary Cameron, Festival Director).

BRISBANE'S MILITARY AND NAVAL HISTORY – A DAY TOUR

11 October; Brisbane (central city pick-up point); \$99 (includes lunch/refreshments)

Brisbane has been the scene of significant military and naval activity. In this one-day program you can hear about these activities and visit some of the sites where this activity took place. The day will include guided visits to the Naval Stores at Kangaroo Point, the historic home of the Queensland Marine Defence Force, and Fort Lytton, initially home to the colony's military forces but an integral part of the national defence system for many years after federation. And there remain several mementos of the critical and at times controversial role that Brisbane played in the 1940s during the Second World War. Guide for the day will be Paul Eddy a military historian with a particular interest in Brisbane's military and naval history and we will hear also from others who were personally involved in this history. Lunch at the Bulimba Yacht Club on the Brisbane River.

A DAY AT THE GOLD COAST ARTS CENTRE

12 October; Gold Coast (Arts Centre, Surfer's Paradise); \$59 (includes lunch/refreshments)

An opportunity to make a personalized visit to the Gold Coast Arts Centre. Situated on the Nerang River at Surfer's Paradise the Centre includes an impressive Art Gallery and a range of drama and cinema facilities. The day's program will include a meeting with the Gallery Director and a guided tour of the current exhibition, *Australians in Hollywood*. The exhibition contains many wonderful photographs from the early period of Hollywood to the present. The Centre is the *only* venue at which this exhibition, from the National Portrait Gallery in Canberra, is being shown. Depending on the current shows and activities at the Centre the program will also include visits to the make-up, costume and other facilities, and meetings with staff to discuss the successes and challenges of running an Arts Centre on the Gold Coast. Refreshments and lunch at the Centre's café.

INDIGENOUS CULTURE

4 November; Brisbane (Goodearth Hotel, Wickham Terrace); \$89 (includes lunch/refreshments)

The program will include an examination and exploration of the notion of Australian aboriginality, its heritage and culture, and the significance of land in the culture. Presenters will include both Indigenous and non-Indigenous people who will discuss the impact of colonisation and the concept of *terra nullus* together with a number of contemporary social issues understood in the context of this background, including the quest for Reconciliation. The program will take the format of a series of presentations and discussions utilising a range of audio-visual material.

RELIGION AND SOCIETY IN INDIA

2 December; Brisbane (Goodearth Hotel, Wickham Terrace); \$89 (includes lunch/refreshments)

A one-day program of presentations and discussions about aspects of Indian philosophy and religion and their implications for contemporary Indian society and culture. A number of speakers will discuss the principles of Hinduism, Buddhism and Jainism, and the philosophy of non-violence, with a view to explaining how these principles and philosophies are reflected in aspects such as art and architecture, trade and commerce, government, and the practice of medicine. Presenters will include Professor Sarva-Daman Singh, Consul-General for India and formerly Professor of History at the University of Queensland.

LONGER PROGRAMS

ART IN BARGARA

12-15 October; Bargara, \$345 (includes art classes, other activities and all meals/refreshments, but excludes accommodation – see Information Sheet for details)

Interested in painting? Would you like to combine art classes in watercolours with a holiday by the beach at Bargara near Bundaberg? This program will be based on the equivalent of two full days of classes plus a couple of guided visits to the annual Bundaberg Art Festival. The classes, suitable for both beginners and people with some experience of watercolour techniques, will be conducted by Mary Argall. Mary has been an artist for forty years and a teacher for twenty. She has won many prizes in that time and recently produced a solo exhibition titled 'Bundy and its Beaches' at the Regional Art Gallery, Bundaberg. Mary also tutors by invitation at the annual McGregor Summer School at the University of Southern Queensland.

IPSWICH – PEOPLE, PLACE AND THE MEDIA

18-21 October; Ipswich; \$575 (includes accommodation and all meals/refreshments; non-residential enrolment available)

Explore and learn about the Ipswich region in a program of presentations, field trips and activities. These will aim to give participants an insight into Ipswich and provide a stimulating and enjoyable few days. A particular focus of the program will be on the different media – radio, television and print, along with newer forms of electronic communication – which serve the community. The more general issue of the role of the media in local communities will also be addressed. A special focus will be an activity on the Ipswich campus of the University of Queensland which is aiming to work with people and organisations possessing contemporary resources (whether photographic, written, electronic or merely 'in the head') to create an archive of local activities and history. Coordinator of the program will be Ashley Jones, an Ipswich 'local' with a background in community radio and television and currently a research scholar at the UQ Ipswich campus where a large part of the program will be conducted. Four-star accommodation.

NORTH STRADBROKE ISLAND – THE MARINE AND LAND ENVIRONMENT

8-11 November; Stradbroke Island Beach Hotel (Point Lookout) and UQ Moreton Bay Research Station (Dunwich); \$595 (includes accommodation, all meals/refreshments, and transport)

Spend a few days exploring the fascinating environment of Stradbroke Island under the guidance of staff from the University of Queensland's Moreton Bay Research Station, Dunwich. An opportunity to visit the rocky headlands and beaches of the island and to see and learn about the management of marine parks, fire ecology, environmental rehabilitation after sand mining, fish and marine life (including a session in the Centre's laboratory using microscopes) and local birdlife; as well as the history and the Aboriginal heritage of the island. Accommodation with breathtaking views over the Pacific Ocean in motel units at the Stradbroke Island Beach Hotel, Point Lookout, with meals/refreshments at the hotel or the UQ Research Station. Transport to the island from Cleveland, and on the island, included.

KEEPING TABS ON THE NEIGHBOURS – WHAT'S GOING ON IN AUSTRALIA'S REGION

22-24 November; Brisbane (Women's College, University of Queensland); \$389 (includes accommodation and all meals/refreshments; non-residential enrolment \$265)

This program will consist of a series of presentations and discussions by historians, political scientists and foreign affairs experts on the current economic and political situation in a number of neighbouring countries. The current affairs of a number of countries in south-east Asia, the near north, and the Pacific will be analysed from the perspective both of their own futures, seen in historical and cultural context, and their impact on and significance for Australia. Presenters will include Associate Professor Clive Moore of the University of Queensland, who has recently published books on Papua New Guinea and the Solomon Islands, and Howard Debenham, formerly State Director of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.